

Office of Governor Mitch Daniels

Jan. 28-Feb. 3, 2008 Volume 2, Issue 67



Weekly wrap-up

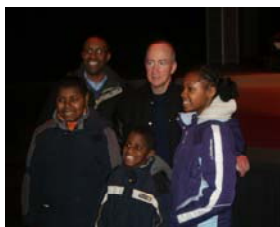
Governor holds forums to discuss property tax relief plan

Jan. 29, 2008- Governor Mitch Daniels attended several events this week to discuss his plan to bring immediate and permanent property tax relief to Hoosiers. He spoke to a gathering of county government officials in Indianapolis and traveled to public forums in Valparaiso and Kokomo.

Daniels encouraged controlled local spending during a discussion about his proposal at Valparaiso City Hall.



Jan. 31, 2008— Governor Daniels discussed his plan for property tax relief at Valparaiso City Hall.



"The question can no longer be: How much does government think it needs? It has to be: How much can the taxpayer reasonably be expected to pay?" said Daniels.

Jan. 31, 2008— The governor with a Kokomo family at an event sponsored by Citizens United for Tax Relief.

The governor later addressed a large crowd and took questions from Kokomo residents during an event hosted by Citizens United for Tax Relief.

Daniels answers questions at Saint Joseph's College

Jan. 31, 2008- During a visit to campus, Governor Daniels held a question and answer session with Saint Joseph's College students, faculty and Rensselaer community members.

With a large assembly of education majors and professors, many attendees asked for the governor's thoughts on various education issues, ranging from ISTEP testing to school funding. While discussing higher education, Governor Daniels encouraged the Saint Joseph's students to remain in Indiana after graduating in order to prevent the "brain drain" of young college graduates from the state.

Governor Daniels also discussed the Healthy Indiana Plan health insurance program, the state's economy, immigration and transportation issues during the forum.

President Bush signs disaster declaration for northern IN

Jan. 31, 2008- Governor Daniels has received word that President George W. Bush has approved the request for federal assistance for Hoosier homeowners, renters and businesses in northern Indiana damaged by flooding that began January 7.

The president sent a letter to the governor declaring a major disaster in the state of Indiana and ordered federal aid to supplement state and local recovery efforts. The president's action makes federal funding available to affected individuals in Carroll, Cass, Elkhart, Fulton, Jasper, Marshall, Pulaski, Tippecanoe, and White Counties. The governor sent a letter to the president requesting assistance for affected Hoosiers on January 23.

Assistance can include grants for temporary housing and home repairs, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses, and other programs to help individuals and business owners recover from the effects of the disaster.

[Read the news release.](#)

[Read the governor's letter to President Bush.](#)

To view past updates, click [here](#).

To visit Governor Daniels' Web site, click [here](#).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

Technology company to expand its Indiana headquarters, operations



Jan. 30, 2008- Governor Daniels and Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard were joined by Defender Direct CEO David Lindsey to announce the company's plans to create more than 1,100 jobs throughout the state.

Jan. 30, 2008- Governor Mitch Daniels joined executives from technology distributor and service provider Defender Direct to announce the company's plans to expand its Indiana operations, including creation of more than 1,100 new jobs.

The company, which distributes and provides products and customer service support services for ADT, GE Security and Dish Network, plans to invest more than \$15 million in its Indiana operations by expanding its international headquarters in Indianapolis by at least 300 jobs. The company has not yet determined if the balance of the new jobs will come to one or more of the company's current locations in Indianapolis, Greensburg and Sunman or a different Indiana site.

"Today, we celebrate major job growth in Indianapolis, but with the knowledge that the same great news is coming to other towns, too," said Daniels.

Founded in 1998 as a local security systems distributor, Defender Direct has grown into a 40-state distributorship for multiple technology brands and a provider of customer service operations that range from sales to home system installation. The company, which currently

employs more than 400 associates in Indiana, has begun hiring managers, professional corporate staff and business development professionals.

[Read the news release.](#)

[Listen to the announcement.](#)

Check printer to relocate manufacturing operation to Jeffersonville

Jan. 28, 2008- Harland Clarke Corp., a leading provider of payment and technology solutions, marketing services and best-in-class security to financial institutions, announced it will expand its check printing operations in Jeffersonville, creating nearly 50 new jobs in southern Indiana by 2010.

The company will relocate its Decatur, Ga. manufacturing operation to its existing facility in Jeffersonville and invest more than \$1.5 million to build and equip an addition to make room for the relocated digital and offset presses.

"A decision like the one Harland Clarke is making to continue to invest in Indiana reflects a growing confidence in the business climate in our state," said Governor Mitch Daniels.

[Read the news release.](#)

Parts supplier to expand its Elkhart operations

Jan. 31, 2008- M-Tec Corporation, a developer and manufacturer of steel frames and components for the recreational vehicle and industrial markets, announced it will expand its operations in Elkhart, creating more than 40 new jobs.

The company, which develops and manufactures products ranging from trailer frames to custom sink and slide out mechanisms for recreational vehicles, will invest more than \$3 million to add more than 60,000 square feet to its existing production facility.

"M-Tec joins a growing list of companies who continue to create new opportunities for hard working Hoosiers," said Nathan Feltman, Secretary of Commerce and Chief Executive Officer of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation. "From Bristol to Rockport, Indiana companies are choosing to grow their business here at home thanks to our skilled workforce, unmatched infrastructure and competitive business climate."

[Read the news release.](#)



Feb. 2, 2008- Gov. Daniels with a Purdue agronomy student at the annual Purdue Alumni Association Fish Fry.

A look ahead...

Governor Daniels will travel to Bloomington, Evansville, Santa Claus and Terre Haute this week.